

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF BLISS EUGENE TITUS

Bliss Eugene Titus, son of Eugene and Stella Jane Van Wagoner, was born 22 Oct 1899 in Provo, Utah. His education was received at Midway and the Wasatch High School in Heber City. His mechanical training was in Provo, Utah; Remington Arms in Denver, Colorado; and the U. S. Arsenal in Rock Island, Illinois.

He was baptized a member of the L.D.S. Church 3 April 1908 or 1909 and holds the priesthood of an Elder.

Bliss has always been a respected citizen of his community, and has been President of the county "Wild Life Association." He has gained acclaim locally, nationally, and internationally as a gunsmith being known for his fine gun barrels and custom-built rifles. His favorite recreations are fishing and hunting. He also is talented as a vocal soloist.

When Bliss was ten years old his mother died very suddenly and left four young children. Bliss made his home with his Uncle George Van Wagoner.

He was one of the fortunate ones who was endowed with some of the mechanical skill of his Grandfather. As a young boy he trained in auto mechanics. As a young man of nineteen or twenty years, he opened the first garage and service station in Midway, Utah. He and his Uncle George managed the State Fish Hatchery in Midway at the time it was owned by a group called the Timpanogas Rod & Gun Club. Later he sold the business in Midway and bought and operated the Wasatch Service and Garage in Heber City; also the Wasatch Theater and Bowling Alley.

In 1942 he sold his business and went to work for Remington Arms Company in Denver and Salt Lake City; also for the Army Ordnance Depot at Rock Island, Illinois, and at the Ogden Arsenal, at Ogden, Utah.

After the war ended he set up his own gun business here at Heber City. He has produced gun barrels and custom rifles that have been sent to all parts of the United States, Canada and other foreign countries. They have won high honors in national and international competition.

Bliss was married in June 1922 to Leda Elizabeth Murri in the Salt Lake Temple. They are the parents of five children: Russell Emory Titus (deceased); Stella, (Mrs. Hal Fowkes); Reba; Diam, (Mrs. Roger E. Shields); Maryan, (Mrs. Robert D. Hansen). They have eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Stella filled a mission in the Northwestern States; Reba served as a missionary in the Eastern States Mission.

ner
ceived
Their only son, Russell Emory, served with the U. S. Navy for thirteen years. He was a World War II and Korean War veteran. He taught at the U. S. Naval Academy in Annapolis. Russell died 22 Oct 1966 as the result of an automobile accident, leaving his widowed wife, two children, and one grandchild.